

## Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 SSC-01 EB-11

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15

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P R 100414Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8635

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AMEMBASSY GINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY SUVA

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CINCPAC

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PFOR, NZ

SUBJECT: CABINET CHANGES

REF WELLINGTON 2806

1. LABOUR PARTY CAUCUS MEETING SEPTEMBER 6 CONFIRMED

CABINET STATUS OF ALL INCUMBENT MINISTERS AND ELECTED ONE  
NEW MINISTER, RONALD L. BAILEY. FOLLOWING LABOUR CUSTOM,

PRIME MINISTER ROWLING TODAY ALLOCATED PORTFOLIOS AS

FOLLOWS:

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WALLACE E. "BILL" ROWLING - PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER

OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MINISTER IN CHARGE OF SECURITY  
INTELLIGENCE, MINISTER IN CHARGE OF AUDIT DEPARTMENT,  
MINISTER IN CHARGE OF LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ROBERT J. TIZARD-DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER  
OF FINANCE.

MICHAEL A. CONNOLLY-MINISTER OF POLICE, MINISTER OF CUSTOMS.

MATIUE RATA-MINISTER OF MAORI AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF LANDS.

MARTYN FINLAY-ATTORNEY GENERAL, MINISTER OF  
JUSTICE, MINISTER OF TOURISM AND PUBLICITY, MINISTER OF  
CIVIL AVIATION.

WARREN W. FREER-MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY,  
MINISTER OF ENERGY RESOURCES.

MRS. WHETU TIRIKATENE-SULLIVAN-MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT.

HUGH WATT-MINISTER OF WORKS AND DEVELOPMENT.

SIR BASIL ARTHUR-MINISTER OF TRANSPORT, MINISTER  
IN CHARGE OF STATE INSURANCE OFFICE.

HENRY L. MAY-MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS,  
MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

NORMAN J. KING-MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE,  
MINISTER IN CHARGE OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. FRASER-MINISTER OF DEFENSE, MINISTER  
IN CHARGE OF WAR PENSIONS AND REHABILITATION.

COLIN J. MOYLE-MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND  
FISHERIES, MINISTER OF SCIENCE.

JOSPEH J. WALDING-MINISTER OF OVERSEAS TRADE, ASSOCIATE  
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

ARTHUR J. FAULKNER-MINISTER OF LABOR, MINISTER OF  
STATE SERVICES.

THOMAS M. MCGUIGAN, MINISTER OF HEALTH, MINISTER OF CIVIL  
DEFENSE.

ROGER O. DOUGLAS-MINISTER OF HOUSING, MINISTER OF  
BROADCASTING, MINISTER IN CHARGE OF STATE ADVANCES.

PHILIP A. AMOS-MINISTER OF EDUCATION, MINISTER OF ISLAND AFFAIRS.

FRASER M. COLMAN-POSTMASTER GENERAL, MINISTER OF  
IMMIGRATION, MINISTER OF MINES.

RONALD L. BAILEY-MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF  
ELECTRICITY.

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2. SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT POINTS ARISE FROM RESHUFFLING OF  
PORTFOLIOS. FACT THAT ROWLING DECIDED TO TAKE OVER  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS WILL PROBABLY RESULT IN NO MAJOR CHANGES  
FROM PREVIOUS POLICIES BUT IT IS EXPECTED THAT THERE  
WILL BE DECREASED EMPHASIS IN THIS AREA. GIVING FINANCE  
JOB TO TIZARD IS INDICATIVE OF IMPORTANCE ROWLING PLACES  
ON COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. IN TELEVISION INTERVIEW  
SEPTEMBER 9 ROWLING INDICATED ALL MINISTERS WOULD HAVE

TO BECOME MORE INTERESTED IN FINANCE AND ECONOMY.  
TIAZRD WILL BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE THIS A PART OF  
DAY-TO-DAY GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS.

3. ARTHUR FAULKNER WAS A GOOD MNISTER OF DEFENSE AND SHOULD DO AS CREDITABLE A JOB AS POSSIBLE AS MINISTER OF LABOR. HE IS ON GOOD TERMS WITH THE FEDERATION OF LABOUR, BUT WILL HAVE HIS HANDS FULL (AS DOES ANY MINISTER OF LABOUR) IN TRYING TO KEEP NEW ZEALAND'S INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ON AN EVEN KEEL. WILLIAM FRASER'S DROPPING OF HOUSING PORTFOLIO IN FAVOR OF DEFENSE IS PROBABLY A DEMOTION IN VIEW OF REALTIVELY SMALL SIZE OF DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT IN NEW ZEALAND. CONVERSELY, PICKING UP OF HOUSING BY ROGER DUGLAS HAS GOT TO BE CONSIDERED A PROMOTION. DOUGLAS, AT 36, IS THE YOUNGEST MINISTER IN CABINET. DROPPING OF ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO BY JOE WALDING WILL ALLOW HIM TO CONCENTRATE ON FOREIGN TRADE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS. GIVEN ROWLING'S EMPHASIS ON THE ECONOMY HE WILL PROBABLY BE GIVING WALDING CONSIDERABLY MORE AFFAIRS RESPONDIBILITY THAND DID KIRK. FURTHER COMMENTS ON REVISED CABINET WILL BE SUBJECT SEPTEL.

4. RON BAILEY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND ELECTRICITY, IS 48 YEARS OLD. HE HAS BEEN IN PARLIAMENT FOR 14 YEARS AS MP FOR WELLINGTON SUBURB OF HERETAUNGA. A CARPENTER BY TRADE HE WAS ACTIVE IN TRADE UNIONS BEFORE GOING INTO PARLIAMENT. PRIOR TO HIS ELEVATION TO CABINET HE HELD THE POWERFUL POST OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES. BAILEY IS NOT PERSONALLY KNOWN TO EMBASSY PERSONNEL, BUT IS OBVIOUSLY AN ABLE AND ADEPT POLITICAIN.

EMBASSY IS WORKING ON A FULL BIOGRAPHIC REPORT ON BAILEY AND UP-DATED REPORTS ON OTHER MEMBERS OF CABINET. REPORTS WILL BE POUCHED ASAP.

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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